

S. L. Man Slays Wife, Son-In-Law

SALT LAKE CITY, Nov. 19—While a lively party was in progress Charles E. Crowther 61, of 138 North Eighth West street, shot and killed his wife, Mrs. Susan Lester Crowther, 58, and his son-in-law, Melvin Belger, 26.

A family row that had extended over a long period of time was blamed for the murders today, as the police maintained a guard over Mr. Crowther at the emergency hospital. After the shooting he had attempted to kill himself, but only succeeded in blowing off part of his chin.

Crowther claimed today that he had acted in self defense; that Belger had beaten him. Witnesses said that Crowther was stopped from beating his wife by Belger, who slapped his father-in-law. Crowther rushed out of the house, borrowed a gun on the pretense of shooting rabbits then after a second quarrel in the bathroom, shot his wife and son-in-law.